



ESF programm „Kutsete süsteemi arendamine“

# OCCUPATIONAL STANDARD

## Harvester operator, level 4

**The occupational standard is a document** that describes the job and competence requirements, i.e. a set of skills, knowledge and attitudes required for successful job performance in a particular occupation.

On the basis of the occupational standard of a **harvester operator of level 4**, both initial occupational qualification and occupational qualification will be awarded:

- a) initial occupational qualification will be awarded when fulfilling a nationally recognised curriculum meeting this occupational standard. A remark concerning awarding initial occupational qualification recorded in the graduation certificate/an annex to the diploma shall confirm that the person has received preparation and possesses readiness to start working in the profession at the respective level.
- b) occupational qualification will be awarded if the body awarding the occupational qualification has assessed the conformity of the competencies confirmed in the actual working life of the person with the occupational standard and issued an occupational qualification certificate.

Occupational qualification title	Level of the Estonian Qualification Framework (EQF)
<i>Harvester operator, level 4</i>	4

## Part A

### JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>A.1 Job description</b>
<p>A harvester operator of level 4 is a skilled worker who knows the construction and maintenance of a harvester and operates it independently according to timber harvesting techniques.</p> <p>According to the silvicultural decision, a harvester operator chooses trees to be cut and fells, lops and cross-cuts the trunks into assortments of required quality and parameters, ensuring an optimum economic result as well as ecological and economic sustainability of forests.</p> <p>A harvester operator takes into account the work sections preceding and following one's work, the smoothness thereof and requirements set for timber assortments and drag roads.</p> <p>A harvester operator performs independently the verification measuring of a harvester and prepares cross-cutting files.</p> <p>When working as a harvester operator, the right to drive a motor vehicle and mobile machinery (driver's licence) pursuant to the valid Traffic Act will be useful.</p>
<b>A.2 Units</b>
<p>The occupational qualification of a harvester operator of level 4 consists of two parts:</p> <p>A.2.1 Improvement and regeneration cutting A.2.2 Setting up and maintenance of the harvester</p> <p>A list of tasks, "Units and tasks", related to the units is presented in Annex 1 to the occupational standard.</p>
<b>A.3 Working environment and specific aspects of work</b>
<p>The occupational qualification of a harvester operator of level 4 assumes capability to orientate in nature and physical stamina. A harvester operator must use safety equipment corresponding to the unit and follow occupational safety requirements.</p>
<b>A.4 Tools</b>
<p>The main tool of a harvester operator is a tractor for felling trees, i.e. a harvester.</p>
<b>A.5 Personal characteristics necessary for this job: abilities and personality traits</b>
<p>The occupational qualification of a harvester operator assumes decision-making, responsibility, analysing, concentration and visual capabilities; physical stamina and the accuracy, smoothness and speed of manual operation.</p>
<b>A.6 Occupational training</b>
<p>Usually, a harvester operator of level 4 has vocational education or professional skills obtained during practical work.</p>
<b>A.7 Possible job titles</b>
<p>Harvester operator, chopper operator</p>

## Part B

### COMPETENCE REQUIREMENTS

#### B.1. The structure of the occupational qualification

In order to certify the occupational qualification of a harvester operator of level 4, certifying competencies B.2.1–B.20.3 (transversal competencies) is required

#### B.2 Competencies

B.2.1 Improvement and regeneration cutting	EQF level 4
<p><u>Performance indicators:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) operates a harvester taking into account natural conditions;</li> <li>2) verifies the correctness and safety of the cutting area using a map and/or GPS device;</li> <li>3) prepares a cross-cutting file using the harvester’s computer, user manual and production task;</li> <li>4) selects trees to be left growing based on the objectives related to silviculture (improving the site conditions of the trees, forming the composition of the future forest stand, ensuring an optimum distance between the trees, etc.);</li> <li>5) produces timber assortments pursuant to the quality and parameter requirements given in the production task;</li> <li>6) issues a production report using the harvester’s computer;</li> <li>7) performs the verification measurement of the harvester using a calibrating calliper and measuring tape and following software instructions;</li> <li>8) accepts and forwards electronic data based on the task;</li> <li>9) uses economical work practices when working with the harvester following the working environment and safety requirements;</li> <li>10) evaluates the quality of timber and work on the basis of the task.</li> </ol>	
<p><u>Supporting knowledge:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) basic tree and shrub species, the properties thereof and principles of maintenance;</li> <li>2) silvicultural aims;</li> <li>3) timber quality requirements and wood defects;</li> <li>4) most widespread types of damage to trees;</li> <li>5) timber harvesting techniques;</li> <li>6) principles of operating a harvester;</li> <li>7) principles of the use of a calibrating calliper;</li> <li>8) most common operating programs of the harvester;</li> <li>9) principles of the use of GPS devices and maps.</li> </ol>	
<p><u>Assessment method(s):</u> Practical work and an interview</p>	
B.2.2 Setting up and maintenance of the harvester	EQF level 4
<p><u>Performance indicators:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) observes the good working condition of the harvester on the basis of the user manual;</li> <li>2) adjusts the parameters of the harvester as required, taking into account ergonomics and the nature of work;</li> </ol>	

<p>3) troubleshoots the mechanical, electrical or hydraulic defects based on the user manual;          4) determines the need for repair work based on the user manual and, if possible, removes defects within the limits of his/her competence;          5) performs regular maintenance based on the user manual and safety requirements;          6) disposes maintenance and repair waste based on environmental requirements.</p>
<p><u>Supporting knowledge:</u>          1) principles of operating, setting up and maintenance of a harvester.</p>
<p><u>Assessment method(s):</u>          Practical work and an interview</p>

## TRANSVERSAL COMPETENCIES

<b>B.2.3 Transversal competencies of the occupational qualification of a harvester operator, level 4</b>	<b>EQF level 4</b>
<p><u>Performance indicators:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) understands one's part in the technological chain of stocking up timber – the purpose of the cutting, collection, transport and use of the assortment – and participates in teamwork;</li> <li>2) uses materials and tools prudently and economically and works in view of the company's profitability; offers viable solutions;</li> <li>3) evaluates risk factors; avoids and prevents the occurrence of damage to forest, soil or the environment or any other possible risks related to one's work section and applies measures to manage risks;</li> <li>4) complies with working environment and occupational safety requirements by using occupational health and safety equipment and safe work practices;</li> <li>5) in case of an accident, provides emergency care, calls professional help and informs the employer about the accident;</li> <li>6) uses a computer in one's work at level AO2 (see Annex 1);</li> <li>7) uses Estonian at level B2 and at least one foreign language at level A1 in one's work (see Annex 2).</li> </ol>	
<p><u>Supporting knowledge:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) legislation related to the profession;</li> <li>2) principles of ergonomics;</li> <li>3) basis of occupational and environmental safety;</li> <li>4) basis of first aid.</li> </ol>	
<p><u>Assessment method(s):</u>          Assessment of transversal competences is integrated within other competences of this standard.</p>	

## Part C

### GENERAL INFORMATION AND ANNEXES

<b>C.1 Information on the preparation and approval of the occupational standard, on the body awarding occupational qualifications, and reference to the location of the occupational standard in classifications</b>	
1. Designation of the occupational standard in the register of occupational qualifications	16-05122013-3.4.1/6k
2. The occupational standard is compiled by: names of people and organisations	Aita Sauemägi, <i>SA Innove</i> Andres Müürisepp, <i>Luu Metsanduskool</i> Ilmar Paal, <i>Riigimetsa Majandamise Keskus</i> Marko Vinni, <i>Luu Metsanduskool</i> Ott Otsmann, <i>Eesti Metsa- ja Puidutööstuse Liit</i> Peep Lohu, <i>Odenkat OÜ</i> Rainer Laigu, <i>Riigimetsa Majandamise Keskus</i> Toomas Keskkülla, <i>Artiston OÜ</i> Tõnu Reinsalu, <i>Luu Metsanduskool</i> Urmas Valter, <i>Raviltos OÜ</i>
3. The occupational standard is approved by	Forestry Sector Skills Council
4. Number of the decision of the Sector Skills Council	13
5. Date of the decision of the Sector Skills Council	05.12.2013
6. The occupational standard is valid until (date)	16.10.2017
7. Version number of the occupational standard (1-n)	6
8. Reference to the Classification of Occupations (ISCO 08)	Chopper operator (83)
9. Reference to the European Qualification Framework (EQF)	4
<b>C.2 Title of occupational qualification in foreign languages</b>	
In English - Harvester operator	
In Finnish - Hakkuukoneenkuljettaja	
<b>C.3 Annexes</b>	
Annex 1 Units and tasks	
Annex 2 Computer skills	
Annex 3 Descriptions of language skills levels	

## Annex 1

### Units and tasks

A harvester operator of level 4 is a skilled worker who knows the construction and maintenance of a harvester and operates it independently according to timber harvesting techniques.

According to the silvicultural decision, a harvester operator chooses trees to be cut and fells, lops and cross-cuts the trunks into assortments of required quality and parameters, ensuring an optimum economic result as well as ecological and economic sustainability of forests.

A harvester operator takes into account the work sections preceding and following one's work, the smoothness thereof and requirements set for timber assortments and drag roads.

A harvester operator performs independently the verification measuring of a harvester and prepares cross-cutting files.

When working as a harvester operator, the right to drive a motor vehicle and mobile machinery (driver's licence) pursuant to the valid Traffic Act will be useful.

	Units and tasks	Logger, level 3	Forwarder operator, level 4	Harvester operator, level 4
1	<b>Improvement and regeneration cutting</b>			
1.1	Operating a forest vehicle		X	X
1.2	Verifying the correctness and safety of a cutting area	X	X	X
1.3	Preparing a cross-cutting file			X
1.4	Silvicultural selection of trees	X		X
1.5	Producing timber assortment	X		X
1.6	Issuing a production report			X
1.7	Performing the verification measurement of a harvester			X
1.8	Accepting and forwarding electronic data			X
1.9	Using economical work practices		X	X
1.10	Evaluating the quality of timber and work	Evaluating the amount of timber and quality of work	X	X
1.11	Sorting, collecting and stacking of the timber assortment		X	
1.12	Planning the arrangement of timber on a timber landing		X	
1.13	Evaluating the amount of a load	X	X	
1.14	Maintaining records on the amount of collected stock		X	
1.15	Maintaining a chain saw	X		
2	<b>Setting up and maintenance of a forwarder/harvester</b>			

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2.1	Observance of good working condition		X	X
2.2	Configuring parameters as required		X	X
2.3	Troubleshooting mechanical, electrical or hydraulic defects		X	X
2.4	Determining the need for repair work		X	X
2.5	Performing regular maintenance		X	X
2.6	Disposal of maintenance and repair waste		X	X
<b>3</b>	<b>Establishing reforestation</b>			
3.1	Transport and preservation of plants	X		
3.2	Evaluating the quality of reforestation material	X		
3.3	Establishing reforestation	X		
3.4	Assessment of the quality of work	X		
<b>4</b>	<b>Maintenance of reforestation and cleaning</b>			
4.1	Verifying the correctness and safety of a work area	X		
4.2	Silvicultural selection of trees	X		
4.3	Forming the composition of a stand	X		
4.4	Maintenance of a clearing saw or chain saw	X		
4.5	Assessment of the quality of work	X		